

ASU School of Social Work

**Office of Sex Trafficking
Intervention Research**

ASU School of
Social Work

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

April 28, 2014

Arizona Human Trafficking Council

**Domestic Violence
&**

Sex Trafficking

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D.

Domestic Violence & Sex Trafficking Defined

DV

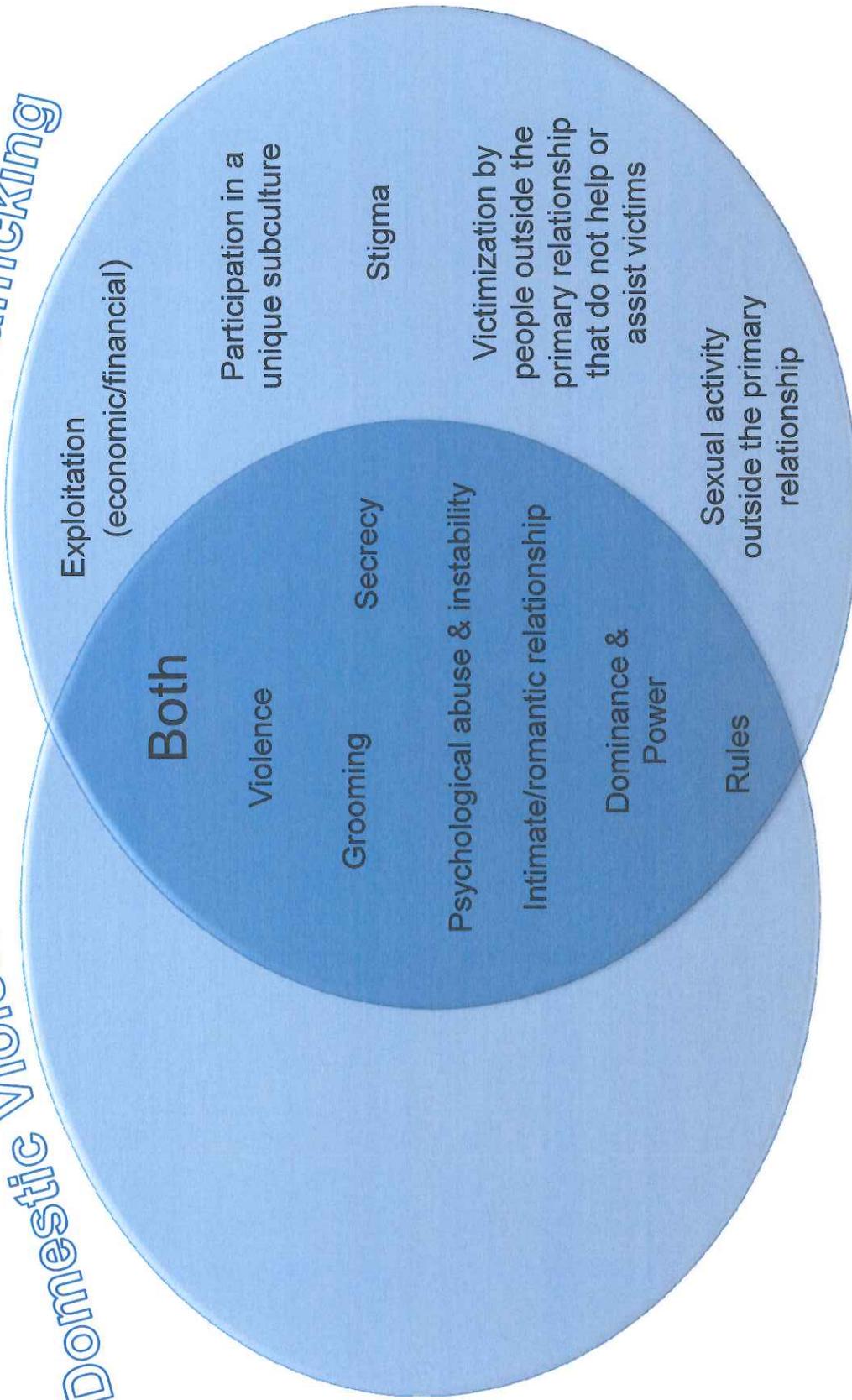
Domestic violence relationships occur between family or household members and they are characterized by an unequal access to power wherein one member of the relationship maintains power and control over the other through the use of physical, verbal, and emotional abuse (Naylor, Petch, & Azam Ali, 2011).

ST

According to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, sex trafficking is defined as a situation “in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age”.

Sex Trafficking

Domestic Violence

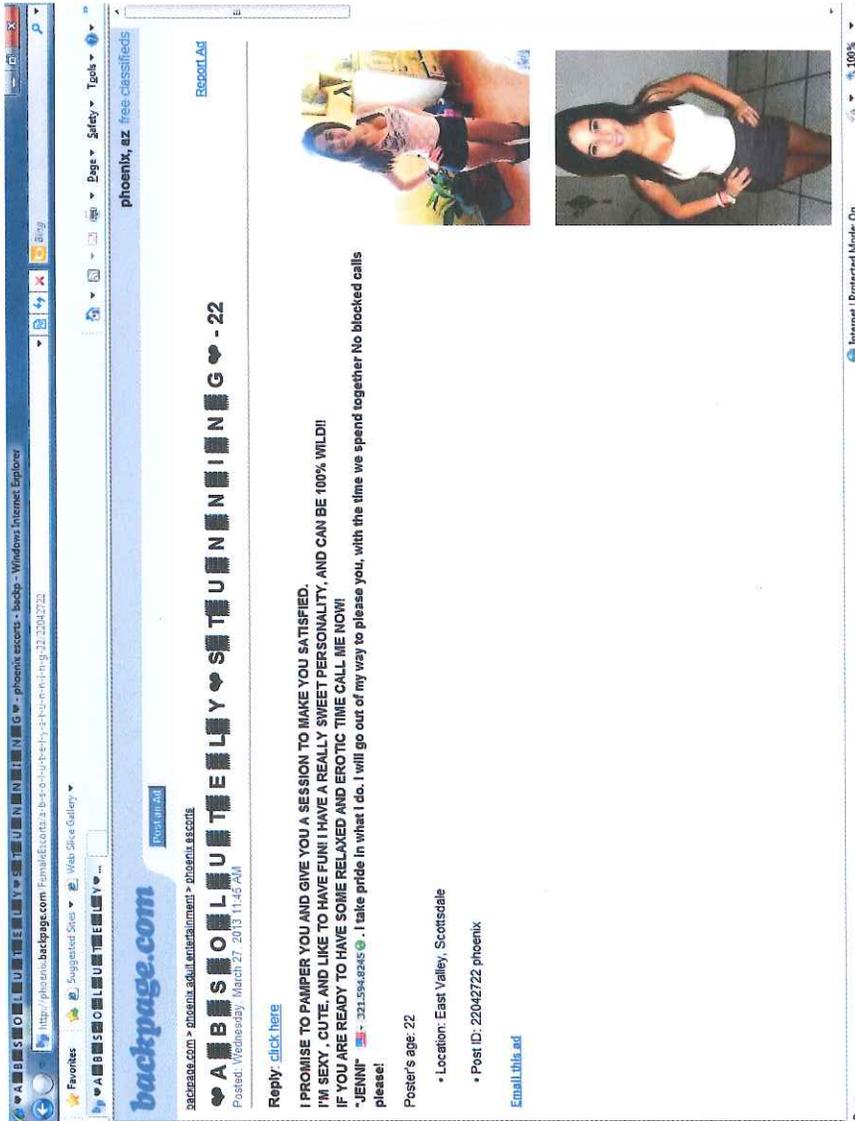


Source: Roe-Sepowitz, Gallagher, & Hickie, 2012

Why address this problem?

Sex trafficking generated an estimated \$12 billion per year (McCabe, 2010)

U.S. is one of the top 3 destination countries for human trafficking activity (Green, 2008)



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a backpage.com advertisement. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://phoenix.backpage.com>. The page title is "phoenix, az free classifieds". The advertisement is for a sex worker named "JENNI" with a phone number "321.594.8245". The ad text includes a promise to pamper and give a session, and a warning to call if ready for relaxed and erotic time. There are two photos of the worker: one in a black bikini and one in a white top and black skirt. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet | Protected Mode On".

backpage.com
A B B S O L U T E L Y S T U N N I N G - 22
Posted: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 11:45 AM

Reply: [click here](#)

I PROMISE TO PAMPER YOU AND GIVE YOU A SESSION TO MAKE YOU SATISFIED. I'M SEXY, CUTE, AND LIKE TO HAVE FUN! I HAVE A REALLY SWEET PERSONALITY, AND CAN BE 100% WILD! IF YOU ARE READY TO HAVE SOME RELAXED AND EROTIC TIME CALL ME NOW!
"JENNI" - 321.594.8245 - I take pride in what I do. I will go out of my way to please you, with the time we spend together No blocked calls please!

Poster's age: 22
• Location: East Valley, Scottsdale
• Post ID: 22042722 phoenix
[Email this ad](#)



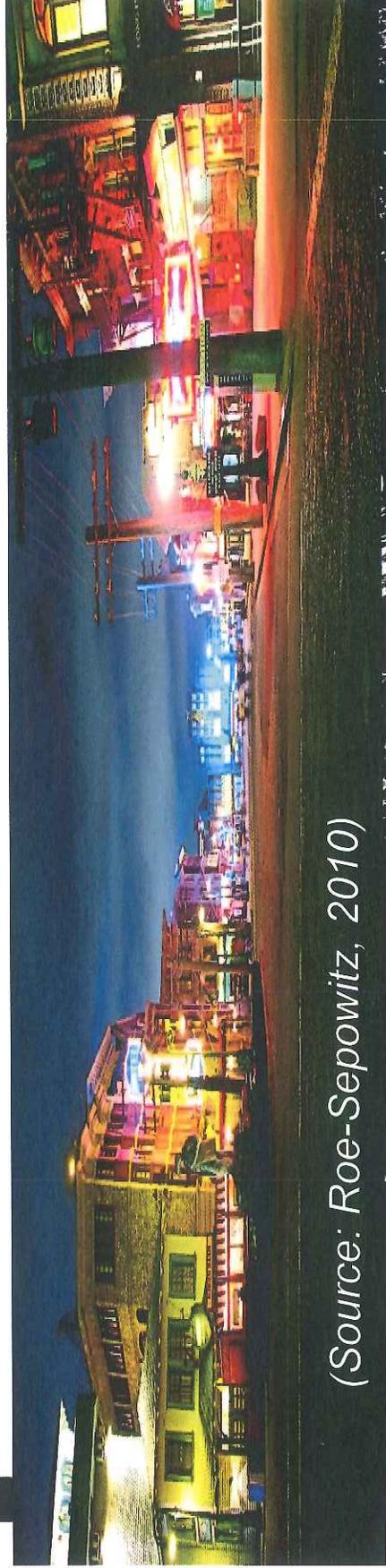
Risk factors for sexual exploitation

- Childhood abuse
- Parental alcohol and drug use
- Domestic violence, neglect, or abandonment
- Running away from home, homelessness and economic need/poverty

Sources: (Dalla, 2001; Dalla, 2003; Hardman, 1997; Nadon, Koverola, & Schludermann, 1998 Roe-Sepowitz, 2012; Simons and Whitbeck, 1991; Silbert & Pines, 1982)

How do individuals become victims of sex trafficking?

1. Running away and living on the streets
2. “Romeo” pimps
3. “Gorilla” pimps
4. International or domestic major crime operations “circuits”
5. Gang-related prostitution
6. A parent or relative pimps their child
7. Curiosity, “fun” or “excitement”
8. Gay males: hustle market



(Source: Roe-Sepowitz, 2010)

Negative Consequences

- Physical health issues
- Mental health issues
- Relationship issues

Warning signs

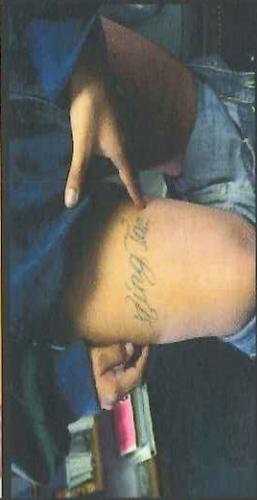
What to look for

- Homelessness
- Chronic runaway
- History of abuse
- Travel with an older male
- Presence of an older boyfriend
- Multiple STI's
- Signs of violence
- Involvement in the system
- Tattoos or other branding marks

Unique to Sex Trafficking Terminology

- "Game"
- Daddy/sugar daddy, boss, manager
- Call out/call in
- Dancer, escort
- Bottom girl
- Trick or date

Tattoos vs. Brands



Barriers to Treatment

- Drug abuse/addiction • Motivation to change
- Relationship challenges • Prior traumatic experiences
- Rules of “the game” • Fear
- Economic need • Lack of self-worth, identity
- Limited future-focus

Where can DV victims go?

In 2012,
9,567 kids
and adults
served in

Arizona (Homeless in
AZ 2012 Annual Report)

- Beds available
in Arizona for
domestic
violence victims

Where can ST victims go?

52 for
minors

18 for
adults

- Shelter beds exclusively designated for sex trafficking survivors in Arizona.

What needs to change

- Increase social service, law enforcement and DCF knowledge about what to look for in DV cases that may also be sex trafficking cases.
- Decrease the stigma and blame towards victims of sex trafficking.
- Share domestic violence services with sex trafficking victims.

Contact Information

- Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D.
Dominique.roe@asu.edu

Introduction to Domestic Sex Trafficking

The 2000 Victims of Trafficking Protection Act first defined what sex trafficking was, and a 2003 revision clarified that the definition includes domestic minors. Defining the law this way relieved law enforcement of the burden of having to prove force, fraud, or coercion for anyone under the age of 18.

Sex Trafficking

- **Recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining a person through force, fraud, or coercion (psychological, physical, financial) for the purpose of benefitting financially from the commercial sex act of that person. Transporting, obtaining, or providing can happen within cities and states as well as across state or international lines.**

- ❖ Sex trafficking generates \$32-91 billion in profits worldwide
- ❖ U.S. is a top destination country for human trafficking activity
- ❖ Arizona has many factors that make it a profitable market for sex trafficking including 1) transportation corridors enabling easy, anonymous movement throughout the state and across state lines, 2) a large resort community, and mild climate that brings conferences and other tourist attractions year-round

What kinds of experiences do individuals face before becoming sexually exploited?

- Childhood abuse including sexual abuse (Simons and Whitbeck, 1991), physical abuse (Silbert & Pines, 1982), and emotional abuse (Roe-Sepowitz, 2012)
- Parental alcohol and drug use (Dalla, 2001)
- Domestic violence, neglect, or abandonment (Dalla, 2003)
- Running away from home, homelessness (Nadon, Koverola, & Schludermann, 1998) and economic need/poverty (Hardman, 1997)

How do individuals become victims of trafficking (Roe-Sepowitz, 2010)?

1. Running away and living on the streets
2. Girls/women may be recruited by "Romeo" pimps who convince them that they love and care about them
3. Girls/women may be kidnapped and forced by "gorilla" pimps
4. Involvement in gang-related prostitution
5. A parent or relative pimps their child
6. Freely enter and participate in prostitution for "fun" or "excitement"
7. Gay males accessing the gay community via the hustle market
8. International or domestic major crime operations "circuits"

Negative consequences of sexual exploitation

Physical health	Mental/emotional health	Relational health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injury resulting from violence perpetrated by pimps and customers • STI's, physical pain from frequent sexual activity, stress-related pain, poor diet/GI problems • Drug addiction and related health issues (e.g. asthma, Hepatitis C, skin infections) <p>•Sources: (Dalla, 2003; Jeal & Salisbury, 2004; Raphael & Shapiro, 2004; Schaffer and DeBlasie, 1984)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTSD, dissociation • Poor coping skills including drug use and other forms of self harm • Suicidal ideations low self-esteem • Explosive disorders/violence <p>•Sources: (Clarke, Clarke, Roe-Sepowitz, & Fey, 2012; Farley & Barkan, 1998; Roe-Sepowitz, Hickie, & Cimino, 2011; Young, Boyd, & Hubbell, 2000)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manipulation, fear/trust issues • Trauma bond (i.e. Stockholm Syndrome) • Codependency and poor boundaries, problematic attitudes towards intimacy • Participation and identification with an underground social network <p>•Sources: (Williamson & Cluse-Tolar, 2002; Williamson & Prior, 2008)</p>

Treatment needs

- Have a mentor or person they can trust
- Develop positive social support
- Facilitate/support lifestyle change
- Deal with their traumatic experiences through counseling (individual/group), where they can 1) Learn how to feel safe, 2) Decrease fear and anxiety, 3) Address core beliefs about self and the world, and 4) Anticipate future triggers

Warning Signs of Domestic Sex Trafficking

- Homelessness
- Moving frequently
- Prior sexual abuse
- Travel with an older male, or with a number of other women/girls
- Presence of older boyfriend
- Multiple sexually transmitted diseases
- Tattoos or other branding marks
- Signs of violence
- Involvement in the system through other offenses (e.g. drug charges, theft, property crimes)

What to ASK if you suspect sex trafficking victimization

1. Can you tell me about where you are living right now? How long have you been there?
2. Who do you stay with? Did you have to do things to stay somewhere that you would rather not have?
3. Do you have a boyfriend? What do you do together?
4. Has anyone ever paid you to have sex or paid someone else (like a boss or pimp) for you to have sex with them?
5. Have you ever traded sex for anything like drugs, food, a place to stay, protection, or things like purses or clothes?

Arizona Human Trafficking Council

Governor's 2013 Task Force on Human Trafficking

Presentation

April 28, 2014



Branded

Executive Order 2013-04

- Establishment of the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking – April 8, 2013
- Governor selected two co-chairs:

Cindy McCain and Gilbert Orrantia

13 Members Appointed by the Governor

Lea Benson, President and CEO, Streetlight USA	Bill Montgomery, Maricopa County Attorney
Doug Coleman, Representative, AZ House of Representatives	Andrew Pacheco, Criminal Division Chief, AZ AG Ofc.
Adam Driggs, Senator, AZ State Senate	Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney
Doug Ducey, AZ State Treasurer	Bill Ridenour, Attorney, Ridenour, Hienton & Lewis
Larrie Fraley, Executive Director, Undivided	Brian Steele, Executive Director, Phoenix Dream Ctr.
Lt. Jim Gallagher, Phoenix PD Human Trafficking Vice Squad	Grant Woods, Former AZ Attorney General
Robert Halliday, Director, AZ Department of Public Safety	

Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking

Charged to Carry Out the Following:

Review Arizona laws, take testimony from subject matter experts, identify opportunities to strengthen Arizona human trafficking statutes and make recommendations to the Governor

- The Task Force has met for a total of six publicly noticed meetings.
- Agendas, minutes, and all materials generated throughout the Task Force process are posted on the Governor's website:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/HTTF/>

Summary of the Issue

- Human Trafficking as defined by the U.S. Dept. of State:

“The act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining a person for labor, services, or commercial sex acts by means of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of exploitation, involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery, or any commercial sex act involving a minor.”

- Modern day slavery victimizes vulnerable populations including women, children and impoverished individuals.
- Enslaved labor or commercial sex is a multi-national, **multi-billion** dollar industry.
- While only 40,000 victims were identified worldwide in 2012, expert research indicates there may be as many as **27 million**.

Summary of the Issue

- Sex trafficking was widely accepted as an international problem.
- Research indicates there is a large market for domestic minor sex trafficking within U.S. borders with all 50 states reporting incidents of the crime.
- The Task Force heard testimony that indicates the majority of cases involve local and national trafficking rings.
- The majority of victims and perpetrators in Arizona are Americans.
- Women and children are exploited through various sectors, including, but not limited to massage parlors, strip clubs, prostitution and pornography.

Testimony



Findings

The Task Force hosted presentations from 16 subject matter experts and considered research and testimony from national, state, and local authorities on Human Trafficking issues.

- Protection Challenges

- Victim identification

- General lack of public awareness about human trafficking
 - Perception both by the public and victims themselves that victims are prostitutes and therefore criminals

- Victim self-identification

- Victims are kept in confinement and threatened with physical harm or harm against loved ones
 - Traffickers target at-risk, vulnerable populations

Children are easily manipulated and exploited.

Findings

◎ Recommendations

- Help hotline for victims (posted in locations where victims are most likely to come in contact with the information).
- Training for law enforcement, first responders, child welfare caseworkers, and criminal justice professionals on human trafficking.

◎ Legal Issues

- “Trafficked victims are often overlooked or treated as criminals.”
- Diversion programs provide an opportunity for victims to self-identify and receive assistance, and also provide victims with an alternative to criminal prosecution. (Removing low level offenses from a victim’s record was discussed).

• Prosecution

- Subject matter experts indicate state laws should complement federal law by providing strong penalties against perpetrators and protect victims.

• Prevention

- The need for a public awareness campaign on human trafficking was repeatedly discussed during Task Force meetings.

Additional Considerations

● Ongoing Efforts

- The Task Force agrees there is a significant need for an ongoing state-level task force, commission, or advisory committee on human trafficking.
- Best practices indicate the state can benefit from a multidisciplinary approach to human trafficking.
 - Greater federal, state, and local coordination on human trafficking is critical
 - Strengthening public-private partnership opportunities – the work of non-profit organizations is significant.

● Special Events

- Special events are significant drivers in the commercial sex industry.

● Online Classified Websites

- Task Force testimony and research suggests that a significant portion of human trafficking is facilitated through advertisements posted on websites through dating and adult categories with limited posting requirements and restrictions.

● Child Welfare

- Research and testimony indicate children within the child welfare system are particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation . One leading national expert suggests about 60% of all children who are trafficked within the U.S. have been in foster care custody.

Report Submission



April 22, 2014 Governor Brewer Signs Legislation to Combat Human Trafficking

- Crafted around the Human Trafficking Task Force's recommendations submitted to Governor Brewer in September 2013
- HB 2454 - Bill strengthens state law to protect victims and discourage offenders
 - Creates a separate and higher sentencing structure for traffickers that increases the presumptive sentence
 - Strengthens the language of the statute regarding johns who engage in prostitution with minors
 - Adds child prostitution, sex trafficking and labor trafficking to the list of acts that constitute racketeering
 - Establishes advertising of a minor for prostitution, when a visual depiction of the minor is included in the advertisement, as a class 2 felony

HB – 2454 Signing



Thank you.



Governor Brewer established the Task Force on Human Trafficking to examine state law, administrative practice and law enforcement training practices in order to identify opportunities to strengthen Arizona's stance against human trafficking. Overwhelmingly, the Task Force made legislative recommendations to increase penalties against both traffickers and johns, to recognize victims of human trafficking as victims under the law and to address trafficking online through classified websites and other advertisements. These proposed legislative changes will place Arizona in a position to more effectively defend her children against this modern-day form of slavery.

PROVISIONS OF H.B. 2454:

- ❖ Creates a separate and higher sentencing structure for traffickers in cases involving minors that increases the presumptive sentence:
 - From 10.5 years to 13.5 years for a first offense;
 - From 15.75 years to 25 years for a trafficker with a prior felony conviction; and
 - From 28 years to 31 years for a trafficker with two or more prior felonies.
- ❖ Adds the language "or should have known" to the section of statute regarding a john who engages in prostitution with a minor who is fifteen, sixteen or seventeen and, therefore, limits the defense that the john did not know he was engaging in prostitution with a minor.
- ❖ Allows any prior felony conviction to qualify for increased sentencing for traffickers, and for johns who knowingly engaged in prostitution with a minor who is fifteen, sixteen or seventeen, or "should have known."
- ❖ Adds an aggravating offense if a trafficker obtained a victim from a shelter for runaway youth, foster care, homeless persons or victims of human trafficking, domestic violence or sexual assault.
- ❖ Adds an affirmative defense for victims of sex trafficking for the crime of prostitution and specifies that a victim's identifying and locating information is considered private when testifying in a court proceeding or when it is obtained by a prosecution or law enforcement agency.
- ❖ Adds child prostitution, sex trafficking and labor trafficking to the list of acts that constitute racketeering and allows anti-racketeering revolving fund monies to be used toward services for victims of racketeering offenses.
- ❖ Requires licensed escorts, escort businesses, massage therapists, and massage therapy businesses to include their license number in any advertisement for services, as well as to keep on file proof of the age of anyone depicted in an advertisement for services.
- ❖ Establishes advertising a minor for prostitution, when a visual depiction of the minor is included in the advertisement, as a class 2 felony and a dangerous crime against children if the minor is under 15 years of age.

FACTS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

- ❖ Human trafficking is defined as causing another person to engage in prostitution or forced labor or services by enticing, recruiting, harboring, providing, transporting or otherwise obtaining another person by deception, coercion or force.
- ❖ Human trafficking is the second largest criminal enterprise worldwide, netting an estimated \$32 billion each year.
- ❖ Victims of human trafficking may be U.S. citizens or foreign nationals.
- ❖ Human traffickers prey upon vulnerable populations, including children, runaway and homeless youth, previously traumatized individuals and prior victims of sexual assault.
- ❖ Both adults and children are victims of human trafficking.
- ❖ Victims are male and female, from all socio-economic classes, races and geographic locations.
- ❖ Victims are often subjected to violence, inhumane living conditions, emotional trauma, drug and alcohol abuse and threats to family members as means of coercion.
- ❖ Victims of human trafficking do not profit from their labor.
- ❖ Traffickers use manipulation, fraud and coercion to control their victims; therefore, human trafficking victims may not be aware they are victims with outlets for help and protection.



Arizona Human Trafficking Council Committees & Membership

Research and Data Collection	
<p>Collect and analyze, to the greatest extent possible, data on human trafficking in the state and submit reports to the Governor as deemed appropriate by the Council.</p>	<p><i>Chair - Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research</i> <i>Arizona State University</i> Allie Bones, Coalition to End Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Chad Campbell, Administrative Office of the Courts</p>
Victim Services	
<p>Develop a coordinated and comprehensive plan to provide human trafficking victims with appropriate services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy ▪ Legislation 	<p><i>Chair - Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney</i> Margery Alt, DHS Consumer Rights Sheila Hoppe, Div. Child Safety & Family Services Carolyn Jones, Streetlight Brian Steele, Phoenix Dream Center</p>
Outreach and Awareness	
<p>Promote public awareness about human trafficking, victim services and restitution, and trafficking prevention.</p>	<p><i>Chair - Michael Derfus, Arizona Department of Transportation</i> Chuck Fitzgerald, ArizonaSERVES/DES Debbie Johnson, Lodging & Tourism Association Sarah Suggs, O'Connor House</p>
Training	
<p>Work to develop training for first responders, law enforcement, and professions engaged in human trafficking issues.</p> <p>Establish and incorporate Arizona Peace Officer and Standards Training Board certified training on human trafficking as a basic curriculum requirement for new officer training at Arizona police academies.</p>	<p><i>Chair - Tim Chung, Department of Public Safety</i> Chris Bray, Phoenix Police Department Jon Eliason, Maricopa County Attorney's Office Grant Woods, Former Arizona Attorney General</p>
Underlying Themes / Philosophy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a multidisciplinary approach to human trafficking. Encourage collaboration and communication between jurisdictions. ▪ Work to achieve greater federal, state, and local coordination on human trafficking issues. ▪ Identify opportunities for public-private partnerships to help address human trafficking. ▪ Further study and consider the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking and oversee the implementation of the recommendations, as appropriate. ▪ Foster greater collaboration among law enforcement, non-profit organizations that serve human trafficking, victims, government agencies, and the community-at-large in order to effectively address human trafficking statewide. 	